

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus comprising:  
a projection optical system by which an image of a pattern is projected onto an upper surface of a substrate; and  
a stage apparatus, the stage apparatus including:  
a holder having a substrate holding surface on which ~~a~~ the substrate is held, there being a gap along an outer circumferential part of the substrate held on the holder;  
a lyophilic portion that is disposed in a vicinity of the holder radially outward of the outer circumferential part of the substrate held by the holder, and that is the lyophilic portion being disposed below a lower than the upper surface of the substrate held by the holder in the vicinity of the holder and facing downward; and  
a recovery device that recovers a liquid leaked from the gap using the lyophilic portion.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recovery device has a suction device that suctions the liquid guided to the lyophilic portion.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 2, wherein suction force of the suction device by which the liquid is recovered is greater than suction force by which the substrate is held on the holder.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the suction device includes a passage disposed below the lyophilic portion, and the lyophilic portion has an inclined portion, which is inclined toward the passage of the suction device.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the lyophilic portion has a first portion that is higher than the substrate holding surface.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recovery device has a recessed portion that suctions the liquid by the capillary phenomenon.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 6, wherein at least a part of the recessed portion is lyophilic.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recovery device has a surface that is substantially parallel to the substrate holding surface, and at least a part of which is liquid repellent.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of the holder is liquid repellent.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the substrate holding surface is liquid repellent.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the lyophilic portion is disposed so that a space is formed between the outer circumferential part of the substrate and the lyophilic portion.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a portion of the holder that opposes the lyophilic portion is liquid repellent.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) An exposure method comprising:  
holding a substrate on a holder, there being a lyophilic portion disposed ~~below~~  
a lower than an upper surface of the substrate held by the holder in a vicinity of the holder

radially outward of an outer circumferential part of the substrate held by the holder, the lyophilic portion facing downward;

supplying liquid to the upper surface of the substrate; and

exposing the upper surface of the substrate held by the holder through the liquid.

15. (Previously Presented) An exposure method according to claim 14, further comprising:

recovering part of the liquid using the lyophilic portion.

16. (Previously Presented) An exposure method according to claim 14, wherein a part of the holder is liquid repellent.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the lyophilic portion has an inclined surface which is downwardly inclined in a direction away from the substrate held on the holder.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A stage~~ An exposure apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a flat surface which is provided around the holder, and which is substantially flush with the surface of the substrate held on the holder,

wherein the recovery device recovers, using the lyophilic portion, the liquid which has leaked from a gap between the flat surface and the surface of the substrate held on the holder.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The exposure apparatus according to ~~claim 13~~ claim 1, further comprising:

a liquid supply system which has a supply port, the liquid supply system supplying a liquid onto the substrate to form a liquid immersion area on a portion of a surface of the substrate during the exposure,

wherein the substrate is exposed through the liquid with exposure light.

20. (Currently Amended) A device manufacturing method comprising:

exposing, through a liquid, a substrate held on a holder of a stage apparatus of  
an exposure apparatus according to claim 1; and  
processing the exposed substrate.